

# COUNCIL DISCUSSES HOSPITAL MEETINGS

One of the ACT Advisory Council representatives on the Canberra Community Hospital Board of Management, Mr J. W. Leedman, said last night that he thought some of the "in committee" business at board meetings could possibly have been discussed in open meeting.

"When I have had more experience at board meetings and I see a matter which is to be discussed in committee that I think could be discussed in public I will raise it," he said. "But I don't make a mental note and ask is this top secret?"

Mr Leedman was replying to an ACT Advisory Council meeting last night to a question by Mr G. J. Walsh on the length of time the Board spent in committee at its monthly meetings.

Mr Walsh said his question was prompted by an article in The Canberra Times which criticised the length of time spent in discussion in closed meetings.

Mr Leedman said he did not have a stopwatch at meetings but added that the meetings usually stopped for afternoon tea and often continued informally after formal business was completed.

"But because we don't leave the room till 5pm that doesn't mean we've been in committee for all that time," he said.

## 'Retrogate' decision

The other council representative of the board's deputy chairman, Mr J. H. Peard, said he was not a clock watcher and could not say how long the board was in committee.

"Obviously those writing the articles know more about time than I do," he said.

Mr Peard said he thought the board's achievements would answer its critics. "This board will acquire itself as well as and if not better than the past board," Mr Peard said he would be falling in his duty to the board if he came to public meetings and talked about in-committee business.

"I would be surprised if this council wanted me to do this," he said.

"This board does no more business in secret than any other board I have been associated with and that covers 11 years," he added.

Questioned by Mr Walsh on the reported exclusion of the Matron, Mrs M. Guy, from board meetings, Mr Peard said the matron's last report had contained mainly staff changes.

"The decision to discontinue matron's attendance was a board decision and reverts to a decision which was previously adopted by the old board," Mr Peard said.

Mr Walsh said, "It's a retrograde decision".



The British film star James Mason, wearing a handsome beard, arrived in Sydney yesterday with the British actress Helen Mirren. The two have come to Australia to take the leading roles in a £1 million production of a film to be based on the novel 'Age of Consent' by Norman Lindsay.

## SEASON BLAMED

# Jobless highest for 5 years

Unemployment in Australia rose to its highest level for five years last month mainly because of seasonal factors, the Minister for Labour and National Service, Mr Bury, said yesterday.

The number of jobless rose by nearly 13,000 during January to 96,213. In January, 1963, more than 111,000 people were out of work.

Mr Bury said seasonal factors contributed greatly to the increase. These included the annual shutdown in many industries, the end of sugar harvesting and milling and reduced activity in meat slaughtering and processing, particularly in Queensland.

Married women seeking jobs towards the end of the school holidays had also boosted the figures.

The number out of work at the end of January represented 1.9 per cent of the estimated work force.

All States registered increases and Queensland with 3.2 per cent of its work force unemployed at the end of January had the highest proportional increase.

It included 60,305 males, and 35,908 females, 51,403 adults, and 44,810 juniors under 21.

The proportions of unemployment in other States were: NSW 1.5 per cent; Victoria 1.8 per cent; South Australia 2.3 per cent; Western Australia 1.5 per cent; Tasmania 2.1 per cent.

Employment vacancies registered with the Commonwealth Employment Office rose during January by 1,320 to 36,982.

In New South Wales 29,024 people — an increase of 4,772 — were registered as unemployed. But there was a decrease

of 482 to 6,324 in the number of people receiving unemployment benefits — mainly in the Sydney Metropolitan, Parkes and Newcastle districts.

In Victoria 25,665 people — an increase of 1,735 — were registered as unemployed.

The number on unemployment benefit fell by 122 to 5,117.

Graph and comment, Page 17.

## Big ACT rise

The number of jobless in the ACT and surrounding district rose steeply in January.

The figures issued yesterday show that at the end of the month 456 people — 306 males and 150 females — were registered for employment.

At the end of December 297 (209 males and 88 females) were registered.

In January last year, 413 people — 315 males and 98 females — were out of work.

The Canberra employment district covers the ACT and the Yarrowlumla Shire.

Unfilled vacancies at the end of January numbered

294, compared with 333 at the end of December and 290 at the end of January last year.

Mr Isa, Cloncurry, and Julia Creek have been cut off by rail and road for more than a week by floods.

BRISBANE, Monday. — Emergency food supplies may be flown tomorrow to three north-west Queensland towns isolated by floods.

Private Barry Kenneth Monk, 20, single, of Cro-

ton, NSW, 3 RAR (very satisfactory, returned to duty).

Sapper Lyndon Ross Stutley, 21, married, of Kimba, South Australia, 1st Field Squadron (satisfactory, returned to duty).

Captain Colin Andrew Swain, 28, married, of Dalby, Queensland, 3 RAR (very satisfactory, remained on duty).

Sapper Allan Graham Pattison, 19, single, of Kadina, South Australia, also of 1st Field Squadron, Royal Australian Engineers;

Private Robert Neil Creech Duthie, 24, married, of Athol Park, South Australia, a member of 3rd Battalion, RAR (satisfactory);

Private Glen Carey Atkinson, 22, married, of Glenelg, South Australia, 3 RAR (satisfactory);

Private Melvin Eric Lowe, 22, married, of Charleston, South Australia, 3 RAR (satisfactory);

Trooper Philip Robert Droop, 22, single, of Doncaster, Victoria, a member of 3rd Cavalry Regiment (satisfactory);

Sapper David James Lawson, 18, single, of Frankston, Victoria, a member of 1st Field Squadron (very satisfactory, returned to duty);

# VIETNAM ACTION Two Australians die, 18 wounded

Two more Australians were killed in action in a mortar and artillery duel with Vietcong guerrillas at an Australian Task Force base in Bien Hoa province, South Vietnam, Army Headquarters in Canberra announced last night.

The deaths brought the total killed in the three-hour battle to seven.

The Australians died during Operation Coburg, which has claimed the lives of 19 Australian soldiers since it began in Bien Hoa province on January 26.

Army headquarters also announced last night the names of 18 Australian soldiers wounded during the mortar attack which

happened early on Sunday morning as Vietcong and North Vietnamese troops began the expected second wave offensive in South Vietnam.

Australian casualties in the war have risen sharply since the first Vietcong offensive began almost three weeks ago.

Total Australian casualties in action since January 24 stand at 23 killed and 95 wounded.

Since Australia's military commitment was first made in Vietnam in 1961 156 Australians have been killed and 635 wounded.

Army headquarters said last night that of the total number killed, which also includes those who died of wounds, 57 were national servicemen. Of the wounded, 188 were national servicemen.

Since May, 1966, 128 Aus-

trilians had been killed and 479 wounded.

This compared with an estimated 957 Vietcong confirmed killed by body count in the same period, of which 242 had been killed since the start of Operation Coburg.

A second announcement from Army Headquarters last night said at least 10 armed Vietcong had been killed, four taken prisoner and another 90 suspects detained in a snap search of Hoa Long village, south of the Australian Task Force Base at Nui Dat, on Sunday.

One of the prisoners was a female Vietcong cadre member.

An Army headquarters spokesman said that others captured had been identified as members of a guerrilla unit operating as a political-propaganda tax collecting agency in Phuoc Tuy province.

# Casualties listed

This was the list of killed and wounded announced by Army Headquarters last night:

KILLED were: Sapper David John Steen, 21, single, of Penola, South Australia, a member of 1st Field Squadron, Royal Australian Engineers;

Sapper Robert Neil Creech Duthie, 24, married, of Athol Park, South Australia, a member of 3rd Battalion, RAR (satisfactory);

Sapper Raymond Keith Donald Duthie, 24, married, of Athol Park, South Australia, a member of 3rd Battalion, RAR (satisfactory);

Captain Richard Lippett, 39, married, of Geelong, South Australia, (satisfactory, remained on duty);

Private John William Taylor, 21, single, of Bull Point, NSW, 3 RAR (satisfactory);

Private Glen Carey Atkinson, 22, married, of Glenelg, South Australia, 3 RAR (satisfactory);

Private Melvin Eric Lowe, 22, married, of Charleston, South Australia, 3 RAR (satisfactory);

Trooper Philip Robert Droop, 22, single, of Doncaster, Victoria, a member of 3rd Cavalry Regiment (satisfactory);

Sapper David James Lawson, 18, single, of Frankston, Victoria, a member of 1st Field Squadron (very satisfactory, returned to duty);

Private Garry Lloyd Hogan, 21, single, of Arthur River, Western Australia, 3 RAR (seriously ill);

Gunner Frederick William Bowden, 21, single, of Henley Beach, South Australia, a member of 4th Field Regiment, Royal Australian Artillery (satisfactory);

Major Brian William Howard, 29, married, of Miranda, NSW, 3 RAR (very satisfactory, remained on duty);

Private Barry Kenneth Monk, 20, single, of Cro-

nulla, NSW, 3 RAR (very satisfactory, returned to duty).

Sapper Lyndon Ross Stutley, 21, married, of Kimba, South Australia, 1st Field Squadron (satisfactory, returned to duty).

Captain Colin Andrew Swain, 28, married, of Dalby, Queensland, 3 RAR (very satisfactory, remained on duty).

Sergeant John Thomas Watson Connell, 39, mar-

ried, of Fockupanyal, Victoria, (satisfactory).

In Sydney yesterday the Australian Council of Churches voted at its annual meeting to send \$20,000 to Vietnam for refugee relief.

The council's aid secretary, the Reverend Harvey Perkins, told the meeting that 100,000 new refugees in the coastal cities were in desperate need.

A spokesman for the Japanese Embassy would not comment yesterday on a picture in The Canberra Times which showed two garden hoses in operation at the Ambassador's residence.

Only one hand-held hose may be used on any one residential lease during the two hours.

Washing cars with a hose is banned.

Private swimming pools may not be filled or cleaned with water.

Hand-held hoses are per-

mitted only between 6am and 7am and between 6pm and 7pm. Sprinklers are banned.

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## Trips for \$43,000

The president of the American Field Service, Mr Arthur Howe, said yesterday that his organisation had been responsible for providing scholarships for 43,000 17-year-olds from 72 countries, including Australia, since the scheme began after World War II.

Speaking at an Australian-American Association luncheon at the Hotel Canberra, he said that high school students visited the US for one year, living with an American family, while American students visited other countries.

Mr Howe said children were "troublesome" at 17, but it was the best age for such a "deeply personal exchange" as the boys and girls were young enough to be open-minded and old enough to benefit from travel experience.

The scheme was a "significant education adventure" which enlarged the horizons and ideas of the children and the families with whom they lived.

## Big bridge job let

SYDNEY, Monday. — An \$89,218 bridge will be built over Gilmore Creek on a 1.7 mile deviation of the Snowy Mountains Highway, south of Tumut.

The successful tenderer is Siebels Bros Pty Ltd, of Wagga, and the time for completion of the work is 48 weeks.

## 14 YOUTHS ON RAPE CHARGE CROWD COURT

SYDNEY, Monday. — Fourteen youths appearing on rape charges against two young girls were made to sit in the three-tier Press box in Central Criminal Court by Mr Justice Taylor today.

The youths are appearing on a total of 98 charges alleging rape and assault of two girls, aged 14 and 16, at Georges Hall on July 9.

Twelve of them had entered the dock when Mr Justice Taylor ordered them to move, saying he could not see them.

Five youths sat in the front tier of the Press box, seven in the back, and the others between.

The weight of the seven on the back bench caused it to creak when any of them moved.

Court officials said later that they had never known so many accused to be in the court in a single hearing.

Mr Justice Taylor ordered the pressmen and women present to take their seats beside him on the bench.

Barrister asks for dock seat

Barristers representing the accused complained that they could not speak to their clients, and suggested that the Crown Prosecutor, Mr W. Knight, QC, should change places with them.

Mr Knight refused this request, saying he wanted to face the jury during the hearing.

Another barrister unsuccessfully asked Mr Justice Taylor to allow him to sit in the dock, saying this would allow "comfort and convenience".

The legal arena was crowded with Mr Knight, his assistant, and 12 defence barristers seated around two tables.

Fourteen police officers, 60 spectators and 100 prospective jurors were in court.

# Britain must trade or 'go down'

Britain did not have natural resources, only ability, know-how and ingenuity, and it had to trade, or go down, Lord Carrington said yesterday in Canberra.

Speaking of the growing British trade with mainland China, which he did not regard as a "real growth market", Lord Carrington said, "After all, trading with them doesn't mean approving what they do."

"In that respect my Government's decision not to sell arms to South Africa was the silliest thing I've ever known."

"When we sold buses to Cuba, the Americans didn't like it; I would be sorry if the US were upset at the trade with China, but that's not a reason for not trading."

## Heads Tories

Peter Alexander Rupert Carrington, the sixth baron, is described in 'The International Who's Who' as "a British administrator". He is leader of the Conservative Opposition in the House of Lords, and served in three Ministries in Conservative Governments.

He was High Commissioner in



Lord Carrington

Australia for three years, and described Canberra as "quite the nicest place outside England I've ever lived in".

Now he is visiting Australia as chairman of directors of the ANZ Bank.

Devaluation ought to get Britain out of its troubles — if the Labour Government did the "right thing", he said.

"There's nothing basically wrong. But we are the bankers for

the sterling area and there has been a crisis of confidence in the Government, not in Britain.

"The Government must cut its expenditure further and it may restrict personal expenditure. There has to be a policy to prevent wages rising. I hope they wouldn't restrict portfolio investment overseas."

"Courageous"

"The Government must take courage, be tough, explain to the people."

Lord Carrington discounted the possibility of Britain entering the European Common Market during General de Gaulle's lifetime.

But Britain "must start adjusting the economy so that when the time comes we can join with the least upheaval. We must also get in before the shape of the 'political umbrella' is decided."

Britain must make sure that it did not lose its investment in South-east Asia after the 1971 military withdrawal.

"Our being there creates stability; we should be taking our part in containing communism. We certainly shouldn't be leaving everything to the Americans."

"We are losing influence with America, Australia and New Zealand by not being there", he said.

Interview with Lady Carrington, P.13.

## Food may be airlifted

BRISBANE, Monday. — Emergency food supplies may be flown tomorrow to three north-west Queensland towns isolated by floods.

Mr Isa, Cloncurry, and Julia Creek have been cut off by rail and road for more than a week by floods.

## Tests for siamese twins

BRISBANE, Monday. — Specialist tests in Brisbane beginning next week will determine if Goondiwindi's tiny siamese-twin girls will be able to live normal separate lives.

The two identical girls, born at Goondiwindi Hospital yesterday afternoon are joined at the chest.

It was a caesarean birth, and the girls are the first-born children of Mr and Mrs Christos Tetteris, who have been in Australia only 10 months.

The twins' doctor said today the babies were progressing well and probably would be brought by ambulance to Brisbane on Friday.

## Lights in March

The traffic lights to be installed at the Constitution Avenue intersection with Anzac Parade would be working toward the end of next month, the ACT Advisory Council was told last night.

The lights are part of a six-point plan designed to reduce the accident rate in Anzac Parade, announced by the Minister for the Interior, Mr Nixon, last December.

# THE FABULOUS AMERICAN WATER FOLLIES ARE ON NOW!

SOME TICKETS AVAILABLE AT DOOR - BUT DON'T BE DISAPPOINTED, BOOK NOW WITH DAVID JONES OR BOURCHIER'S. TICKETS FROM \$1 TO \$2-50, CHILDREN 75c to \$1-25. TWILIGHT SHOW ON WEDNESDAY AND MATINEE SATURDAY, BUT BOOK NOW! THE WATER FOLLIES, AT MANUKA OVAL!

A JAYCEE CHARITY PROJECT

## Slept in open to avoid military police

MELBOURNE. — A young conscientious objector to national service had been sleeping in the open to avoid military police, the State Full Court was told today.

He is Denis James O'Donnell, 21, who was not in court, but who had his solicitor tender an affidavit.

The court refused O'Donnell a speedy hearing of his application for exemption.

His counsel, Mr J. Little, for the second time in recent weeks, had asked the court for a hearing.

But the court ruled again that he was absent without leave and his case could not be put ahead of other hearings.

## AWL since November

O'Donnell, designated as an army cook, has been AWL since last November 23.

His affidavit said he now had no employment or fixed address.

He told of narrow "brushes" with military police who had several times raided his parents' home in Winifred Street, Oak Park, where he used to live.

He swore that he was in fear of arrest and hence had been moving from "place to place", sometimes sleeping in the open.

"I have a conscientious belief which does not allow me to serve in the Australian military forces in any capacity at this time."

"As a result I am unable, because of my beliefs, to present myself for service to the army authorities," the affidavit added.

O'Donnell's affidavit said that about 5.30am last January 14 two "plainclothes" men spent 15 minutes hanging and ransacking his parents' house. He did not answer. Later the telephone rang a lot, but he did not answer.

On January 22 two plainclothes men knocked on the door, and one went to a neighbour's home and heard the man say, "I am from the military police". The men had said they had a warrant for his arrest.